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All reports to the contrary, Oklahoma is still the wild and woolly West.

There will be no general regret that the price of some cigarettes is likely to advance.

The Hotel Chandler in Randolph looks like Vermont's "Mount Washington hotel" on paper.

If there is any consolation in the thought, here it is—spring comes officially in two months.

The St. Johnsbury Caledonian asks why shouldn't St. Johnsbury be "the heart of the great North Country?" So long as it lets the rest have the legs for kicking purposes, that will be all right.

The Vermont law-makers have been in session three weeks. We cannot say that they have accomplished a great deal in that time, but we can say that we are hopeful of much good to come to the state through their efforts.

As the result of the liberality of the legislators, attendant, of course, upon Governor Graham's endorsement, Vermont is to have a new state building which will be worthy of the state. It would have been unfortunate to leave the new structure in an unfinished condition when there were possibilities for making it complete and reasonably adorned at comparatively slight additional outlay. Vermont never would have been satisfied, even those who opposed the additional appropriation, to leave the new building before the job was done.

The Vermont Press association, which held its annual meeting in Barre yesterday, is not always active, or perhaps regular in getting together for annual meetings and summer reunions; but those who attended the session in Barre appreciate no doubt that there is considerable advantage to them in breaking away from the harness now and then to indulge in a little get-together for discussion and for banqueting. With a revamping of its constitution and by-laws, etc., the association promises to be more of a stiekler for regularity than it has been recently. The association has many possibilities of advantage to its members.

It is quite an optimistic message which Secretary (and publicity agent) James P. Taylor of the Greater Vermont association brings about Vermont and Vermont's prospects for development. Already a great deal has been accomplished along the line of co-operative work for the betterment of the state—far more, by the way, than one is accustomed to think when considering the various phases of state activity separately. Each effort of itself cannot do very much toward building up the state but when all the efforts are taken as a whole they become a powerful factor. The only course to pursue now is to keep everlastingly at the employment of those individual efforts, each in its particular line of activity. Vermont is bound to progress if that is done.

There must have been mixed emotions in Germany on the arrival of the prize ship Yarrowdale, captured from the British—joy at the carrying out of a good naval feat and regret over the 400 extra mouths to feed. Every prisoner that Germany takes adds to the already very heavy burden of responsibility for their maintenance; and Germany, by general consent, is not well fixed as to food supplies, while her allies are probably in far worse condition. The capture of what ever stores were still left in Rumania did comparatively little to lighten the burden, while at the same time the responsibility grew with each additional batch of prisoners. Hence the arrival of 400 more hungry persons, brought on a captive steamship, brings not such unrestrained joy as might have been expected under other circumstances.

Vermont joins with the nation to-day in paying silent tribute to Admiral Dewey, whose body was laid to rest in the Arlington National cemetery on the river overlooking the beautiful Potomac river. If Vermont had been permitted to have her way, no doubt the body of Dewey would have been brought to Vermont for burial amid the hills of his native state; but the claiming of the body by the nation brings sharply to mind that Dewey was first an American, second a Vermont; which order is, after all, the only reasonable and patriotic sequence. First an American citizen; second, a Vermont. It is not only absurd, but it is somewhat unpatriotic to place state above nation, however much we may love the state in which we were born or in which we live. So Vermont must give Dewey's body to the nation, as she gave Dewey's life to the nation for his extraordinary service in the naval department. It is probable that a splendid memorial will be erected to the man in Arlington cemetery, where the nation's dead are gathered.

ENFORCE THE COASTING REGULATIONS.

An accident in the streets of St. Johnsbury when a youth was coasting ran into a team and was struck by the hoof

of the horse calls attention anew to the desirability of setting aside streets for the use of the children in sliding and to the desirability of enforcing the regulations when once put into effect. We do not know what sort of regulations St. Johnsbury has made regarding coasting on the streets but we presume that it does have certain restrictions, as most of the larger communities have. In that case, it is evident that strict enforcement of the regulations does not obtain in St. Johnsbury, just as it does not obtain in about every community which tries by official fiat to protect the children. There are always infractions of the rules laid down by the authorities because of the well known perverseness and carelessness of the young people. If the youngsters see a hill and a fairly good coasting service they see nothing beyond but their own pleasure in sliding down that hill. If the hill be a street and if the street happens to be one of those not set aside for sliding purposes teamsters take little, or no, care to look out for objects which may be in the road unless those objects be as big as their own vehicles. The result often is that serious accidents occur, as in St. Johnsbury on Friday. The only remedy, seemingly, is to enforce the restrictions; and that can be done only by placing guardians at the hill streets not set aside for sliding. It may not be necessary to keep those guardians at their posts all the time, but long enough to instill in the minds of the youngsters that safety demands that they have their fun on some less dangerous streets.

CURRENT COMMENT

Dewey.

It was one of those compensations which life often yields grudgingly and late, but unbounded opportunity which George Dewey seized so splendidly at Manila bay. As a battle it was one-sided, though Dewey could not know it would so turn out; as a naval operation it was brilliant, and as an exhibition of personal skill, courage and audacity on the part of the commander it was magnificent. To sail his ships into that harbor under the circumstances was to trust his star, to imagine gloriously and compel the event to match; it was the same attitude of mind which Farragut proclaimed at New Orleans; Nelson was moved by the same spirit when he clapped his telescope to his blind eye to watch Sir Hyde Parker's signal at Copenhagen. And it is always to be remembered that though Dewey rose to emergencies in that way with little show of concern, he never neglected any of the necessary preliminaries which did not show; he left nothing to chance which he could not force, but when he had fulfilled his duty, he ran headlong at the day's adventure with a cheer.

What Admiral Dewey did for the United States that May morning cannot now be computed, for we haven't all the data at hand to work out the final result. Politically he threw his country into the relatively still waters of world-fellowship, and the nation has since been learning to swim with but indifferent success because those waters have neither been cold nor stormy until lately.

George Dewey was an accomplished naval officer, a gallant commander and a figure of romance not such by circumstance but rather by nature and training. —New York Evening Sun.

War Damage to Neutrals.

The United States has much reason to complain of inconveniences, vexations, injuries and losses of various kinds as consequences of the great war, and, though certain branches of manufacture and commerce have profited through their supply of military requirements, our people have in general to suffer under a heavy burden of higher prices for food and clothing and all the necessities of life. There are small increases everywhere that mount to a weighty total. We find that though this nation is strictly neutral and far from the fields of war, neither the neutrality nor the remoteness can screen us from injurious effects of the terrible conflict.

But while we endeavor by diplomatic protests to champion neutral rights, let us think not of ourselves only, but of those neutrals who have the war at their doors, who are in constant danger of being drawn into it, all the neighbors being belligerents and some of them having no great respect for neutral territories. Denmark, Sweden and Norway, having Russia and Germany as their neighbors, are not happily placed. Naval warfare in the Baltic is especially irritating to Sweden, being carried at times into her territorial waters, and the Norwegian waters on the west have been invaded by German submarines for the capture of Norwegian ships. Denmark is in the Prussian grip, with the Kiel canal and the German navy located in her own old territory of Schleswig-Holstein. Holland is between German militarism and the deep sea; Switzerland is entirely surrounded by belligerents, having France and Italy on the west and south, and Germany and Austria on the north and east; while Spain has France and Portugal as her next-door neighbors.

It needs but a moment's thought to convince us that the position of the European neutrals is infinitely worse than that of the neutrals on this side of the Atlantic. Switzerland, Holland and the Scandinavian nations are dangerously situated. They have to endure serious restrictions and deprivations and to make an approach to war expenditures in order to keep their forces mustered to guard the frontiers. Any relaxation of vigilance would be imprudent. Toward the end of last year the Swiss frontier forces were reduced, but now the federal council considers it "necessary to take more extensive measures of precaution," and orders the mobilization next week of forces that have been held in reserve. It is noticeable also that in the King of Sweden's Parliamentary speech the principal point is the need of maintaining the special preparations by land and sea forces which have been judged indispensable, particularly in view of the extension of war operations in the country's territorial waters. Add to these the food importation difficulties and the high prices and it becomes very evident that the neutrals nearest to the arena of battle are by far the greatest sufferers. This should be kept in mind throughout our diplomatic endeavors to procure respect for international law in regard to the status of neutrals. If others are suffering more than we, let us be sure that we do not forget their just claims while we stand up for our own.—Boston Herald.

STATE NEWSPAPER WORKERS IN BARRE

(Continued from first page.)

after which a most appetizing banquet was served, the culinary department of the hotel coming in for no slight praise from the editorial brethren and "cistern," as one speaker had it later on. After the coffee and in the midst of the cigars, the newly elected president, Mr. Belknap, rapped for order and introduced H. L. Hiney as the toastmaster. Toastmaster Hiney was very happy in his introduction of the speakers, and the character of the speaking was considered extra good. Down through the entire list, the audience was kept in a bubble of laughter at the witty sallies and then again held taut with seriousness at the turn of the speakers' will.

A feature of the banquet which added much to the enjoyment was the music rendered by Forsell's orchestra of Montpelier, together with cornet solo work by Mr. Forsell and singing of Harry Clark of Barre. The last named made a distinct hit and was encored time after time, his Scotch selections being especially pleasing.

In the absence of Gov. Graham, who was called to Washington to attend the funeral of Admiral Dewey, Speaker Stanley C. Wilson of the House of Representatives brought the greetings of the state of Vermont, which he did in the most felicitous manner. Mrs. Watson Wasson, wife of Supt. Wasson of the state hospital at Waterbury, was called upon to speak about "The Ladies and the Editors," and no more interesting and thoughtful talk has been heard from "that side of the house" in a long time. It is not too much to say that Mrs. Wasson's talk was the gem of the whole evening, as the speaker brought out telling points, one after another. As a preface statement, Mrs. Wasson recited the following original lines:

How comes it? A woman? Invited to speak? A woman should be proverbially meek? A woman invited to speak to you men? Who change public feeling by a stroke of the pen?

What must be her feelings? Her utter surprise? That men of your calibre her words should prize?

She wishes no ballot—she cares not for your vote, And therefore, how can she say aught that is of note?

She had read of your meeting? Why, yes—that is so, Had it held special interest for her? Well—No—no.

Like Daniel of old, in the savannahs' den, She had one comfort now—as he had then—As he walked with the beasts—perhaps 'tis not true.

But 'tis said he was happy because he knew That while others might struggle to utter words bright, By him no speaking was expected that night.

The wit and wisdom throughout all the state, Have gathered to-night, learned thoughts to relate. Pens stirred with flames as they flash 'cross the page, Tongues silvered with power, which words cannot gauge.

'Tis the time to be humble—why! what can you mean? To ask a mere woman to tell of her dream? To speak of a vision we saw in our own When she thinks of the state we all love and prize.

Of the state which for her, as for you, one and all, Is the pivot to turn our terrestrial ball. The vision comes slowly, a mere woman's view? Perhaps—but remember—sometimes dreams come true!

Vermont stands alone! Ah, no, she's but one, In the union she succored with the best of her sense. The pathway to progress! Why, yes, it is steep.

We earn with our lives the things worthy of keep. "Around the world in seven minutes," was the title of ex-Lieut.-Gov. H. K. Darling's toast, and even such a nimble man as Mr. Darling had to step lively to accomplish it; yet he did it, at the same time mixing in some pleasantities that went straight home. Rev. A. W. Howells of Plainfield of the state board of education responded to "How to be happy though pious," and in his usual clever style he got back at the editorial profession by adjuring them not to seem to be more pious than they really are. "Sense, nonsense and poetry," was the final toast of the evening and was responded to by ex-Lieut.-Gov. F. E. Howe of Bennington. Mr. Howe took some of his editorial brethren in hand and used the mailed fist on them in mock-seriousness, losing with a poetic tribute to the "wand-bearer." The banquet was concluded at about 10:30.

Those present were as follows: Speaker Stanley C. Wilson and Mrs. Wilson of Chelsea, Mrs. W. L. Wasson of Waterbury, ex-Lieut.-Gov. H. K. Darling and Mrs. Darling of Chelsea, Rev. A. W. Howells of Plainfield, J. B. Bishop and Mrs. Bishop of St. Johnsbury, Mrs. F. N. Whitney of Northfield, W. C. Belknap of Bellows Falls, W. H. Wheeler of Vergennes, Otto Bennett of Manchester, H. L. Hiney of Rutland, W. B. Howe of Burlington, W. E. Hubbard of Brattleboro, Merle Meade of Burlington, D. M. Tobin of Swanton, A. Archer (linotype agent), L. A. Kelly of Montpelier, H. E. Parker of Bradford, C. R. Jambon of White River Junction, John Chase of Londonderry, J. E. Murphy (law, timber agent), M. W. Wilson of Bristol, W. H. Crockett of Burlington, F. T. Parsons of Northfield, F. R. Langley (editor of the Daily Times), Montpelier, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Norton of St. Albans, Dean H. Perry of Barre, W. H. Stubbs (linotype agent), F. E. Howe of Bennington.

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F. H. Rogers & Company
Clothing and Furnishings

The same good values in our shoe stock as ever, and right now some extra values, odd pairs, broken lots, priced to close and close quick.

Rogers' Walk-Over Boot Shop
170 No. Main St.

the rest she has earned by leaving shortly for a several weeks' stay in the balm Florida, with a peek at Palm Beach sometime during the stay. "Bon voyage!"

Otto Bennett of the Manchester Journal says you can pay \$16.50 a day at a hotel over in Manchester—if you want to. And then, again, you can pay less if you are not exactly John Rockefeller. Bennett's two sons, we hear, are being brought up the way they should be—as newspaper men—although one of them is temporarily running a business concern and the other is just finishing up at Norwich university.

"Jolly" Sault, who never loses his savor, so to speak, was missed, among others. Too bad that Ludlow was so far away from Barre!

No vote was taken, but Mrs. Wasson was voted in unanimously as an honorary member.

Hale K. Darling modestly admitted that he started out in the printing career, getting his fingers smudged with printer's ink in Harry Parker's sanctum over in Bradford back in the year—well, we hesitate to say.

Someone started a little boomlet for Speaker Stanley C. Wilson for governor by interjecting a late remark while the genial speaker was on the floor.

Although one member came back from Boston with sawdust on his back, it is currently reported that the evidence was not due to his hitting the trail either Sunday, Monday or Tuesday.

The man who carries his money in his cheek would have been compelled to go to the bank before sitting down to such a fine banquet.

All regretted that "Grimes" Graham could not be present, but as he was engaged in a solemn mission in behalf of the state everyone had to be resigned.

A silent toast—Barre's best aqua pura—was drunk to the state of Vermont.

The "State House gang" was well represented; also the man who "crowned his own successor" as sergeant-at-arms.

Some of the publishers were found to be paying greatly increased prices for news print paper, and those who haven't made new contracts were looking forward to the prospective change with much alarm. One publisher was heard of who has laid in enough paper to last till the smash 'o' dawn, if the report was well founded; but someone tried to be a killjoy by asking what the publisher would do if there should come a flood, or a fire, or some other terrible visitation and take away his surplus.

There was scarcely a thing done in the line of politics at the get-together. The members talked business, and when they came together for the banquet politics seemed to be taboo. Therein, the meeting was very successful, too.

Barre would like to entertain the press "gang" again. Good-bye!

AMUSEMENT NOTES

Sympathy Hostile to America is Sympathy with America's Enemies.

The management of "The Battle Cry of Peace," or "The Invasion of America," now playing at the Pavilion theatre, has received much correspondence violently attacking the picture, which gives an interesting sidelight on the well-known and oft reiterated "phenomenon" variety of Americans.

Most of these letters attacking the picture complain that the author has made the invaders act like barbarians to the conquered Americans. One, in particular, from a foreign scholar who has for years been associated with one of our largest universities ended a long diatribe against "The Battle Cry" by saying he could not longer respect the author who was so uncomplimentary to foreigners.

To all these letters reply was made that the object in producing "The Battle Cry of Peace" was to help the propaganda for the adequate defense of the country against any foreign foe, and that any man, to whom a force invading the United States is not thoroughly and intensely hostile, is not an American, is not a true patriot. And that the American who can sympathize, even in a picture, with the destruction of American lives and property is obviously more in sympathy with any enemy than with the United States, and that "an enemy to America is an enemy, no matter what his nationality."—adv.

SUNDAY SERVICES AT THE CHURCHES

TIMES AND PLACES OF WORSHIP AND SUBJECTS OF SERMONS

Washington Baptist Church—W. H. Bishop, pastor. Preaching at 1:30 p. m.; subject, "A Young Man's Question." Bible school at 12:30 noon. All welcome.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints—Services convene at 3 p. m. every Sunday in the Worthen hall. You are cordially invited to attend these services.

St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church, Westerville—W. J. M. Beattie, rector. Evening prayer and sermon at 3 o'clock. Sunday school at 2 p. m. Service on Wednesday evening at 7:15.

Berlin Congregational Church—Frank Blomfield, pastor. Morning service at 10:45; in the absence of the pastor, Rev. E. Culver will conduct service and preach. Sunday school at noon.

East Barre Congregational Church—James Ramage, pastor. Preaching service at 10:30 a. m.; sermon topic, "The Call of the Master." Sunday school at 11:45. Christian Endeavor service at 7 p. m.

Christian Science Church—Service at 10:45 a. m. Wednesday evening meeting at 7:30. To these services all are welcome. The reading-room is open Tuesday and Friday from 2 to 4 p. m. 7 Summer street.

Church of the Good Shepherd—W. J. M. Beattie, rector. No early service. Morning prayer and sermon at 10:30. Sunday school at 11:50. Evening prayer and sermon at 7 o'clock.

Salvation Army—Sunday evening service at 8 o'clock. Sunday school Sunday at 1:30 p. m. Praise meeting Sunday at 3 p. m. Salvation meeting Sunday at 8 p. m. Subject for Sunday meeting will be, "Seeking Christ."

Websterville Baptist Church—W. H. Bishop, pastor. Preaching at 10:30 a. m. by the pastor. Bible school at 11:40. Preaching at 7 p. m. by the pastor; subject, "An Older Boy's Question," followed by echoes from the boys' conference by delegate.

First Presbyterian Church—Edgar Crossland, pastor. Morning service at 10:30; subject of sermon, "Digging Deep." Sunday school at noon. Evening service at 7; sermon topic, "Choosing Affliction." Thursday evening at 8 o'clock, Burns' concert.

Brook Street Italian Church—Bible school at 3 p. m. Evening sermon on "The Land of Giants—The Nephilim," from Genesis 6. Evening classes for the study of Italian and English on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Italian Woman's club every Thursday at 2 o'clock. For information see Dr. J. F. Piani, 51 Hill street.

Swedish Baptist Mission—N. C. Edwell, minister. 10:30 a. m., Sunday school. Send your boy